



January 13, 2015

## Council Connections

Bridging Allegany, Garrett, and Washington Counties



### In This Issue

[Maryland Smart Energy Community Program](#)

[Free Webinar - "New Normal in Retail Development"](#)

[Innovation Challenge for Coal Reliant Communities](#)



Seven Maryland Counties and Baltimore City were recognized for their participation in the [Maryland Smart Energy Community Program](#). Garrett County Commissioners Paul Edwards and Larry Tichnell were present at the MACo winter conference to receive the award for Garrett County's continued work and accomplishments with energy related projects.

### Dates to Remember

**January 20, 2015**  
[TAM Legislative Reception](#)  
Governor Calvert House  
Annapolis, MD

**January 22-23, 2015**  
[Mountain Maryland PACE](#)  
Loews Hotel  
Annapolis, MD

 Find us on  
**Facebook**

 Follow us on  
**twitter**

 Join our  
mailing list



**Golden  
Shovel**

GROUND BREAKING  
ONLINE ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT

**Free Webinar  
New Normal in Retail Development**

Thursday, Jan 22, 2015 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM EST

Of the commercial real estate sectors, retail is perhaps the most dynamic and fast changing. Today's trends in the retail brands expanding and retracting are heavily influenced by new technologies and e-commerce.

Developers and retailers alike have a choice in where they will invest capital. Understanding the current trends is critical to remaining competitive in today's environment for retail growth.

These trends will be covered in the "[New Normal of Retail](#)"

[Development](#)" webinar, presented by Lacy Beasley, Vice President of Business Development for Retail Strategies.

Click [here](#) to register for the free webinar.



### **Innovation Challenge for Coal-Reliant Communities**

[The National Association of Counties](#) and the [National Association of Development Organizations \(NADO\) Research Foundation](#), with the support of the U.S. Economic Development Administration, are partnering to support county and regional leaders in coal-reliant communities with retooling their economies to become more resilient to changing conditions.

Throughout 2015, NACo and NADO Research Foundation will host three intensive, hands-on workshops designed to boost the innovative potential of coal-reliant counties and regions seeking to grow and diversify their economies. Counties and regions are asked to form teams to apply to enter the program. Teams that submit winning applications will be selected to attend a workshop guided by expert facilitators and practitioners. These workshops will be structured to guide counties and regions to design solutions tailored to their communities' needs and identify implementable projects.

First Competition:  
Application opens: January 7, 2015  
First workshop: mid-April, 2015 in eastern Kentucky

Second Competition:  
Application opens: late May, 2015  
Second workshop: mid-September, 2015 in Colorado

Third Competition:

Application opens: mid-August, 2015  
Third workshop: mid-November, 2015 in West Virginia

For eligibility criteria and application please click [here](#)

[www.tccwmd.org](http://www.tccwmd.org)

301-689-1300